

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the due consideration given the application.

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. The amendments to claims 1 and 18 find support in the specification at page 8, line 24 and page 14, lines 3-14. New claims 26-28 are generally based on claim 15. New claims 29-31 are generally based on claim 16. New claim 32 is generally based on claim 13. New claim 33 finds support at page 5, lines 28-35 of the specification. By virtue of their dependencies, the new claims are assignable to Group I.

No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this amendment.

Election/Restriction

The claims of the application have been restricted to the following groups:

A. **Group I**, claims 1-6 and 18-20, drawn to a non-competitive immunoassay for a small analyte employing a reagent pair;

B. **Group II**, claims 7 and 17, drawn to a reagent pair;

C. **Group III**, claims 8-16, drawn to a test kit comprising reagent pairs; and

D. **Group IV**, claims 21-25, drawn to recombinant binding proteins, DNA and host cells.

Group I, claims 1-6 and 18-20, is elected with traverse.

New claims 26-33 are also coverable by this election.

The present application is the national stage of PCT/FI2003/000875. The International Preliminary Report on Patentability completed February 1, 2005 touched on the merits of all of claims 1-25, which correspond to instant claims 1-25, on which the restriction/election requirement was issued. Unity of invention was thus found for the international application.

As a result, Groups A-D related to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they have corresponding special technical features.

Additionally, the Official Action at page 2 includes a discussion of the prior art in regards to all of claims 1-25. As a result, consideration and/or search of claims 1-25 has been performed. Therefore, further examination of the claims of Groups I-IV represents no undue burden.

Rejoinder and examination of all the claims on the merits is accordingly respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$400 for eight extra dependent claims added herewith to our credit card set forth in the attached Credit Card Payment Form.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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